bB-458,30.1

25 Worcester St.
Feby. 10 – 1909.

Dear Mr. Brewster,

I am in receipt of your favor of Feby. 7th – While thanking you for the confidence you place in me, I do not feel myself capable of making a sketch of my Nephew's life and character for publication at once descriptive yet concise. You will therefore kindly take from the written paper I inclose what may be of use to you, simply incorporating it with your own Memorial, but not as a quotation from me.

I have recalled the leading events of his life as far as I can, leaving to his valued friend to add

the tribute of appreciation and affection which he, with so many others, left for him - beyond the family circle.

You ask if I can refer you to others. Dr. John S. Billings of the N. York Public Library knew him intimately. I think both Mrs. Charles F. Walcott and Miss Emma Gary will recall him as a boy, they having both spoken to me of him: Tom Sexton being one of his play-mates and, later, a friend.

Rush Huidekoper was one of his most intimate friends when older. I can, I think, obtain his address from his sister Mrs. Henry P. Kidder. If so, will send it to you, in case you should wish to write to him.

Sincerely yours,

Ellen Hammond.

although to the end of life he retained the patience & sweetness which had so marked his earlier life. He died in Washington Oct. 27, 1902.

James Cushing Merrill

grandson of Daniel Hammond of and of Judge Merrill of Haverhill Mass.

was born in Cambridge Mch. 26 - 1853.

From earliest Childhood he was an exceptionally lovely Character, yet overflowing with fun and happiness.

Slender in figure, graceful in movement his large brown eyes expressive of the feeling & sympathy which, with all his firmness and executive ability in after life made him peculiarly dear to his family and many friends. Among the latter was Dr. Merrill Wyman, his physician during a severe illness from Diphtheria when but 7 yrs. old; and their mutual affection continued through life.

Even as a Child he showed an

interest in natural history, especially in bird life which, in later years, became one of his favorite studies and to the furtherance of which he gave much time.

But his chosen profession was Medicine. After leaving Mr. Howells school (he was for a year or two in Boston with his parents) he pursued his study (Medicine) with great interest for a year or two in Germany, graduating from the University of Pennsylvania 1874. There also he made many warm friends and the devoted Life of the Physician during a prolonged attack of typhoid fever was very marked.

Soon after graduation he was appointed assistant Surgeon in the army and for some years was stationed at distant frontier posts — (first for awhile at Columbus and St. Louis)

Fort Klamath in Oregon —
Fort Shaw " Montana.
" Reno " Indian Territory:

and in all of these stations, while faithful and skilled in his professional duties, he also gave much time to the study of Birds contributing in writing from time to time to Ornithological literature.

Nov. 16-1892 he married,
Mary Pitt Chase of Maryland:
and not long after was appointed Librarian in the Surgeon Generals office in Washington. This post was a congenial one, and one for which he was peculiarly fitted not only as Surgeon but as a fine linguist. But after his active life in the open for so many years the confinement and responsible work soon told upon him, and gradually impaired his vitality.

10 Feb 09

When 3 or 4 yrs. old, Jamie had found in the garden an Earthworm into his mouth! When Checked he answered "Why, the Chick-a-biddies do it."

Closely observant apparently Even at that age!

BBr 313:D:1

My dear Mr. Brewster,

I surely need not tell you with what interest and satisfaction I have received and read the memorial in print. It is all we could wish, and not one word over-drawn. May I add my sincere appreciation to that you will doubtless receive from his friends.

The message left was that I could have other copies if wished for. Already the list of relatives and friends to whom I would send (yet only to those deeply interested) reaches the number of 31.

Doubtless others names will occur to me of those who should not be forgotten. I should be glad therefore to have 3 dozen additional Echoes. But of course this is a business arrangement. You will remember I referred to this when saying I would like to send to many who valued my nephew. You will therefore kindly let me know very soon my pecuniary indebtedness; accepting now my appreciation of your great courtesy and thoughtfulness towards me.

Yours very sincerely,
Ellen Hammond.

I send to two only of his valued friends among the physicians — Dr. Greenleaf and Dr. Farrow of Washington. You doubtless have remembered others.